

From: Jack Stenner
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/25/01 10:29am
Subject: Microsoft Anti-Trust Settlement

Sirs,

As a citizen who values the ideals of innovation and competition in our society, I am appalled at the apparent outcome of the Microsoft Anti-Trust case. I am an artist/architect who is presently acquiring a master's degree in computer visualization. At every turn, I witness the wasted efforts of creative programmers as Microsoft either co-opts previously open standards and integrates/perverts them into their own proprietary system, or establishes competing standards to thwart the development of software it views as "dangerous" to its hegemony. The academic institutions of this country are one of the few remaining environments where alternative operating systems, and an open view of the possibilities of computing persist. I believe the worst possible outcome of this litigation would be if Microsoft were allowed to "pay" damages by further installing their operating system and software on the nation's educational computers. This action will only serve to solidify their business model, and will damage the opportunities for competition at the very foundation.

Please stand up to Microsoft!

Thank you,
Jack Stenner
4004 Oaklawn St.
Bryan, Texas 77801